

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4284

To provide for the establishment of an Amateur Sports Illegal Gambling Task Force; to increase penalties for illegal sports gambling; and to study illegal sports gambling behavior among minor persons.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 13, 2000

Ms. BERKLEY (for herself, Mr. GIBBONS, and Ms. DELAURO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To provide for the establishment of an Amateur Sports Illegal Gambling Task Force; to increase penalties for illegal sports gambling; and to study illegal sports gambling behavior among minor persons.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Illegal Sports Betting
5 Enforcement Act of 2000”.

1 **SEC. 2. AMATEUR SPORTS ILLEGAL GAMBLING TASK**
2 **FORCE.**

3 (a) APPOINTMENT OF TASK FORCE.—The Attorney
4 General shall establish in the Department of Justice an
5 Amateur Sports Illegal Gambling Task Force.

6 (b) DUTIES.—The duties of the Amateur Sports Ille-
7 gal Gambling Task Force are—

8 (1) to enforce Federal laws that prohibit gam-
9 bling relating to amateur sporting events and con-
10 tests, and

11 (2) to submit annually, to the Speaker of the
12 House of Representatives and the President pro
13 tempore of the Senate, a report describing with re-
14 spect to violations of such laws, prosecutions com-
15 menced, and convictions obtained during the period
16 for which such report is submitted.

17 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
18 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
19 \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 2001 and \$5,000,000 for each
20 of the fiscal years 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005.

21 **SEC. 3. INCREASED PENALTIES FOR ILLEGAL SPORTS GAM-**
22 **BLING.**

23 (a) INTERSTATE TRANSMISSION OF BETS OR INFOR-
24 MATION ASSISTING IN PLACING BETS ON SPORTING
25 EVENTS.—Section 1084(a) of title 18, United States
26 Code, is amended by striking “two” and inserting “5”.

1 (b) INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF WAGERING
2 PARAPHERNALIA.—Section 1953(a) of title 18, United
3 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
4 lowing: “If the matter carried or sent in interstate or for-
5 eign commerce was intended by the defendant to be used
6 to assist in the placing of bets or wagers on any sporting
7 event or contest, the maximum term of imprisonment for
8 the offense shall be 10 years.”.

9 (c) ILLEGAL GAMBLING BUSINESS.—Section 1955(a)
10 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at
11 the end the following: “If the gambling business included
12 the placing of bets or wagers on any sporting event or
13 contest, the maximum term of imprisonment for the of-
14 fense shall be 10 years.”.

15 (d) INTERSTATE TRAVEL TO PROMOTE AND CON-
16 DUCT AN ILLEGAL GAMBLING BUSINESS.—Section 1952
17 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at
18 the end the following:

19 “(d) If the offense violated paragraph (1) or (3) of
20 subsection (a) and the illegal activity included the placing
21 of bets or wagers on any sporting event or contest, the
22 maximum term of imprisonment for the offense shall be
23 10 years.”.

24 (e) SPORTS BRIBERY.—Section 224(a) of title 18,
25 United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the

1 following: “If the purpose of the bribery is to affect the
2 outcome of a bet or wager placed on any sporting event
3 or contest, the maximum term of imprisonment for the
4 offense shall be 10 years.”.

5 **SEC. 4. STUDY ON ILLEGAL SPORTS GAMBLING BEHAVIOR**
6 **AMONG MINOR PERSONS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the National In-
8 stitute of Justice shall conduct a study to determine the
9 extent to which minor persons participate in illegal sports
10 gambling activities.

11 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date
12 of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the National
13 Institute of Justice shall submit to the Speaker of the
14 House of Representatives and the President pro tempore
15 of the Senate, a report—

16 (1) describing the extent to which minor per-
17 sons participate in illegal sports gambling activities,
18 and

19 (2) making recommendations on actions that
20 should be taken to curtail participation by minor
21 persons in sports gambling activities.

22 **SEC. 5. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.**

23 It is the sense of the Congress as follows:

1 (1) Illegal sports gambling poses a significant
2 threat to youth on college campuses and in society
3 in general.

4 (2) State and local governments, the National
5 Collegiate Athletic Association, and other youth,
6 school, and collegiate organizations should provide
7 educational and prevention programs to help youth
8 recognize the dangers of illegal sports gambling and
9 the serious consequences it can have.

10 (3) Such programs should include public service
11 announcements, especially during tournament and
12 bowl game coverage.

13 (4) The National Collegiate Athletic Association
14 and other amateur sports governing bodies should
15 adopt mandatory codes of conduct regarding the
16 avoidance and prevention of illegal sports gambling
17 among our youth.

18 (5) The National Collegiate Athletic Association
19 should enlist universities in the United States to de-
20 velop scientific research on youth sports gambling,
21 and related matters.

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